

# **Exhibit 210**

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CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

In re: :  
: Master File No.  
Global Brokerage, Inc. : 1:17-cv-00916-RA  
F/k/a FXCM, Inc. :  
Securities Litigation :  
----- :

REMOTE VIDEO DEPOSITION OF:

SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2, 2021

REPORTED BY:

SILVIA P. WAGE, CCR, CRR, RPR

JOB NO. 4577008

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<p style="text-align: right;">Page 62</p> <p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 Q. Welcome back, Mr. Wilson-Taylor.</p> <p>3 I'm going to pick up around where we</p> <p>4 left off. This is Paragraph 33, looking at the</p> <p>5 end of the paragraph on Page 13. So let me know</p> <p>6 when you're there.</p> <p>7 A. Yep.</p> <p>8 Q. So, at the end of this paragraph, you</p> <p>9 describe "a nonbank liquidity provider that may</p> <p>10 customize its services to the needs of the single</p> <p>11 FX broker who might be its largest or only</p> <p>12 client."</p> <p>13 Do you see that?</p> <p>14 A. I do.</p> <p>15 Q. Was Effex an example of "a nonbank</p> <p>16 liquidity provider that customized its services</p> <p>17 for the needs of a single FX broker," namely,</p> <p>18 FXCM?</p> <p>19 A. I, certainly, had, you know, included</p> <p>20 Effex in my thinking around the opportunity in</p> <p>21 the market, yes.</p> <p>22 Q. And was it your understanding that</p> <p>23 FXCM was Effex's largest client?</p> <p>24 A. Certainly initially, yes. I'm not</p> <p>25 sure how it played out later but...</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 64</p> <p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 their services to the types of liquidity that</p> <p>3 they receive in the market. Even ECNs themselves</p> <p>4 customize pools of liquidity for individual</p> <p>5 customers. So customization, the ability to</p> <p>6 establish very specific trading environments and</p> <p>7 trading pools for customers is an extremely</p> <p>8 important part of the function of these firms,</p> <p>9 yes.</p> <p>10 Q. I appreciate that. But I don't think</p> <p>11 that answered my question, which is...</p> <p>12 Are you aware of any specific</p> <p>13 liquidity providers who customer myself their</p> <p>14 services for the needs of a single FX broker?</p> <p>15 A. You know, I'm not privy to the detail</p> <p>16 of confidential arrangements that exist within</p> <p>17 each of the firms. What I can tell you is the</p> <p>18 same methodology applies to ECNs of which I have</p> <p>19 managed three and in each case we very much</p> <p>20 customize our liquidity to the needs of those</p> <p>21 customers and it's the same process so, yes.</p> <p>22 Q. But the answer is, no, you're not</p> <p>23 aware of any specific liquidity providers who</p> <p>24 customized their services for the needs of a</p> <p>25 single FX broker?</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 63</p> <p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 Q. And -- sorry, I don't mean to cut you</p> <p>3 off.</p> <p>4 Was it your understanding that at</p> <p>5 times FXCM was Effex's only client?</p> <p>6 A. Yes, in the sense that as I</p> <p>7 understand it, FXCM was Effex's first client and,</p> <p>8 therefore, by definition would have been their</p> <p>9 only client, yes.</p> <p>10 Q. Are you aware of any other liquidity</p> <p>11 providers who customized their services to the</p> <p>12 needs of a single FX broker that was their</p> <p>13 largest or only client?</p> <p>14 A. I am, certainly, aware of the</p> <p>15 formation of a number of independent and nonbank</p> <p>16 liquidity providers and I have no doubt that when</p> <p>17 they started they would have had a single client.</p> <p>18 So I think, yes, I am aware of that.</p> <p>19 Q. Are you aware of any specific</p> <p>20 liquidity providers who customized their services</p> <p>21 for the needs of a single FX broker?</p> <p>22 A. They -- well...</p> <p>23 The general advantage of a nimble</p> <p>24 small initially maybe even well-funded startup in</p> <p>25 the FX space is that they are able to customize</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 65</p> <p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 A. No, because I have not worked for</p> <p>3 those firms and I'm not aware of the confidential</p> <p>4 details of how they operate.</p> <p>5 Q. On same page, Page 13/Paragraph 34,</p> <p>6 subparagraph b, you say that, "In a no dealing</p> <p>7 desk model, the broker's profitability generally</p> <p>8 does not depend on the subsequent price</p> <p>9 increase."</p> <p>10 Do you see that?</p> <p>11 A. I do.</p> <p>12 Q. Other than the margin risk, which you</p> <p>13 describe in Footnote 42, are there other examples</p> <p>14 of when you're aware -- sorry.</p> <p>15 Are there other examples that you are</p> <p>16 aware of when a broker's profitability may depend</p> <p>17 in part on subsequent pricing?</p> <p>18 A. Not when the broker is acting as an</p> <p>19 agent in trade, no.</p> <p>20 Q. Other than the margin risk that you</p> <p>21 describe in the footnote, are there other</p> <p>22 examples that you are aware of when a broker</p> <p>23 using a no dealing desk model is exposed to</p> <p>24 market risk?</p> <p>25 A. I'm not -- I can't think of any</p>

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<p style="text-align: right;">Page 78</p> <p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 A. I'm not aware of the specifics. But,</p> <p>3 again, these were all new firms that were created</p> <p>4 and they would have had to start somewhere. So</p> <p>5 they would have started with a single customer.</p> <p>6 Q. If we move down to the next page,</p> <p>7 Page 22/Paragraph 57. Do you see that?</p> <p>8 A. Yep.</p> <p>9 Q. In that paragraph you say that,</p> <p>10 liquidity providers make payments for order flow</p> <p>11 when they recognize that the inherent value of</p> <p>12 the flow is worth more than the cost of servicing</p> <p>13 that flow. I'm paraphrasing you.</p> <p>14 Is that a fair characterization?</p> <p>15 A. Yeah.</p> <p>16 Q. So is another way to say that that</p> <p>17 you mean that a liquidity provider is willing to</p> <p>18 make payments for order flow when the flow is</p> <p>19 profitable for the liquidity provider?</p> <p>20 A. Yeah, I'm not saying that every</p> <p>21 liquidity provider is willing to make payments</p> <p>22 for order flow. But what I'm saying is where a</p> <p>23 payment for order flow arrangement exists, that</p> <p>24 it clearly needs to be profitable to the</p> <p>25 liquidity provider in order to be able to make</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 80</p> <p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 versus other jurisdictions?</p> <p>3 MR. DAHAN: Again, objection, form.</p> <p>4 Just for clarity, again, you're still</p> <p>5 focused on 2010 to 2014, or now you're just</p> <p>6 saying in general?</p> <p>7 MR. BAKER: Let's say general.</p> <p>8 A. Yeah, I -- you know, I -- I probably</p> <p>9 couldn't cite all the detail of all the</p> <p>10 differences. But, you know, there are different</p> <p>11 approaches to doing business in different</p> <p>12 markets. So the Japanese Retail Aggregation</p> <p>13 Market, for example, operates somewhat</p> <p>14 differently to others.</p> <p>15 The European market has, as we know,</p> <p>16 had a thematic review issued by the FCA, which</p> <p>17 has set some standards around payment for order</p> <p>18 flow. And so there are, you know, nuances in how</p> <p>19 this is done.</p> <p>20 But the general principle of looking</p> <p>21 at the value that a business has and working out</p> <p>22 that value is assigned between the participants,</p> <p>23 which can include payment for order flow, is very</p> <p>24 much an important part of the financial markets</p> <p>25 operate.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 79</p> <p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 those payments. That's really what I'm saying.</p> <p>3 Q. So is it fair to say that a</p> <p>4 profitable flow is a necessary but not sufficient</p> <p>5 condition for order flow payments in this</p> <p>6 context?</p> <p>7 MR. DAHAN: Objection to form.</p> <p>8 A. Well, unless somebody wants to lose</p> <p>9 money, it has to be a necessary condition, yes.</p> <p>10 Q. On the same page, Paragraph 58, the</p> <p>11 first sentence says, "Payment for order flow is a</p> <p>12 common practice in the United States."</p> <p>13 Do you see that?</p> <p>14 A. I do.</p> <p>15 Q. Was that statement equally true in</p> <p>16 2010 to 2014?</p> <p>17 A. Yes.</p> <p>18 Q. And is payment for order flow a</p> <p>19 common practice outside the US?</p> <p>20 A. Yes.</p> <p>21 Q. Was that true in that 2010 to 2014</p> <p>22 time period as well?</p> <p>23 A. Yes.</p> <p>24 Q. Are there any differences in how</p> <p>25 common payments for order flow are in the US</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 81</p> <p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 Q. Okay. In light of the -- later in</p> <p>3 the same paragraph, the last sentence you say</p> <p>4 that, "In the US equities market, payment for</p> <p>5 order flow is industry standard practice."</p> <p>6 Does that statement apply equally in</p> <p>7 2010 to 2014?</p> <p>8 A. I am less aware of a history of</p> <p>9 payment for order flow in the equities market. I</p> <p>10 am aware of the current situation in equities</p> <p>11 markets. But my understanding is that, you know,</p> <p>12 payment for order flow has been a feature in the</p> <p>13 equities markets for -- probably for decades.</p> <p>14 Q. And when you say, "industry standard</p> <p>15 practice," do you mean that all or most major</p> <p>16 brokers made payments for order flow, or do you</p> <p>17 mean that practice is relatively commonplace?</p> <p>18 A. I mean, it's relatively commonplace.</p> <p>19 Q. Okay. And is that different in</p> <p>20 non-US equities markets?</p> <p>21 A. I am -- almost no knowledge of non-US</p> <p>22 equities markets. So I can't answer that</p> <p>23 question.</p> <p>24 Q. Okay. On the next page,</p> <p>25 Page 53/Paragraph 59, let me know when you're</p>

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<p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 there.</p> <p>3 A. 59, okay.</p> <p>4 Q. You write, "Payment for order flow is</p> <p>5 also an essential feature of certain</p> <p>6 relationships in the FX market."</p> <p>7 A. Yes.</p> <p>8 Q. Is that statement -- sorry.</p> <p>9 Was that statement true in 2010-2014?</p> <p>10 A. Yes.</p> <p>11 Q. For what types of relationships in</p> <p>12 the FX markets are payments order flow an</p> <p>13 "essential feature"?</p> <p>14 A. You know, what I can very clearly</p> <p>15 comment on is what is publically available</p> <p>16 information and what I'm, you know, less able to</p> <p>17 comment is the confidential relationships between</p> <p>18 parties and, you know, the FX market still</p> <p>19 operates at very much under an atmosphere of</p> <p>20 confidentiality.</p> <p>21 What is public is the fact that</p> <p>22 liquidity providers are paying for flow that</p> <p>23 comes from institutional customers, asset</p> <p>24 managers, hedge funds, corporations, et cetera,</p> <p>25 and have been doing so since -- certainly, since</p>	<p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 receive payments from the liquidity providers for</p> <p>3 that order flow, yes.</p> <p>4 Q. So Current X did the mechanism that</p> <p>5 you're talking about, receive payments for order</p> <p>6 flow from liquidity providers in the retail</p> <p>7 context?</p> <p>8 A. Yes, as a consequence of retail flow</p> <p>9 coming from its customers, yes.</p> <p>10 But I should qualify that, because</p> <p>11 the legal relationship between Current X and the</p> <p>12 broker meant that the broker was an institutional</p> <p>13 customer of Current X. So, by the time Current X</p> <p>14 received it, it was classified it as</p> <p>15 institutional flow and subject to, you know, the</p> <p>16 rules of ineligible contract participant</p> <p>17 relationship. Whereas the broker to retail</p> <p>18 customer was very specifically a retail customer</p> <p>19 relationship.</p> <p>20 But the flow was nevertheless the</p> <p>21 same transaction that went through the Current X</p> <p>22 pipes and they received payment for order flow</p> <p>23 for that flow, which originated it from a retail</p> <p>24 customer.</p> <p>25 Q. Does the nature of institutional FX</p>
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<p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 1999 when I launched the world's first</p> <p>3 multi-dealer FX platform and initiated the</p> <p>4 process where banks paid FX Connect, which is the</p> <p>5 business I operated, for that order flow.</p> <p>6 Q. Did FX Connect offer retail FX</p> <p>7 trading?</p> <p>8 A. FX Connect did not directly offer any</p> <p>9 retail FX trading. But the sister business that</p> <p>10 we acquired CurrentX was very much focused a the</p> <p>11 retail segment.</p> <p>12 Q. Did CurrentX receive payments for</p> <p>13 order flow from liquidity providers in the retail</p> <p>14 trading context?</p> <p>15 A. So CurrentX is an infrastructure</p> <p>16 provided to the retail FX markets. They're</p> <p>17 providing core technology, which is white labeled</p> <p>18 and reused by brokers. So CurrentX wasn't itself</p> <p>19 a broker, but it was, if you like, the master</p> <p>20 technology for a very large number of brokers</p> <p>21 globally.</p> <p>22 And so the sequence of order flow</p> <p>23 would be that the broker would white label</p> <p>24 CurrentX technology. The retail customer would</p> <p>25 trade on that platform. And Current X would</p>	<p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 trading differ from retail in a way that</p> <p>3 liquidity providers might be more willing to pay</p> <p>4 for institutional order flow?</p> <p>5 A. I don't think so. You know, again,</p> <p>6 through segmentation, liquidity providers of all</p> <p>7 kinds would have different appetite for different</p> <p>8 types of flow and, therefore, a different extent</p> <p>9 to which they might be willing to pay for it</p> <p>10 because it's in their view has different levels</p> <p>11 of profitability.</p> <p>12 But with that caveat, the general</p> <p>13 principle of payment for order flow, I think,</p> <p>14 would remain the same.</p> <p>15 Q. In your experience, was it more</p> <p>16 common for liquidity providers to pay for</p> <p>17 institutional flow as opposed to retail flow?</p> <p>18 A. In my experience, history shows me</p> <p>19 that they have certainly paid more for</p> <p>20 institutional flow than retail flow, yes.</p> <p>21 Q. In the 2010 to 2014 time frame, was</p> <p>22 it common for -- in your experience -- for</p> <p>23 liquidity providers to pay for order flow for</p> <p>24 retail flow?</p> <p>25 A. What kind of liquidity providers are</p>

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<p style="text-align: right;">Page 86</p> <p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 we talking about?</p> <p>3 Q. Any type.</p> <p>4 A. So, in that time frame, there were</p> <p>5 certainly discussions between banks and brokers</p> <p>6 around payment for retail order flow. The extent</p> <p>7 to which they turned into actual payment for</p> <p>8 order flow arrangements, I'm kind of less clear</p> <p>9 on, you know. I was involved personally in a</p> <p>10 handful of discussions in that space and not many</p> <p>11 of them ended up with a commercial arrangement</p> <p>12 from a bank liquidity provider to one of these</p> <p>13 firms.</p> <p>14 I'm, obviously, not privy to the</p> <p>15 relationships between nonbank liquidity providers</p> <p>16 and their customers and whether or not that took</p> <p>17 place. So I can only rely on my experience as a</p> <p>18 bank liquidity provider in that time period.</p> <p>19 Q. In your experience, were you aware of</p> <p>20 any liquidity providers, bank or nonbank, who did</p> <p>21 pay for order flow for retail flow in the 2010 to</p> <p>22 2014 time period?</p> <p>23 A. Again, it would be speculation on my</p> <p>24 part. You know, the relationships between those</p> <p>25 firms were confidential. So it may have</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 88</p> <p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 we were probably negotiating for spot FX in the</p> <p>3 range of \$3 a million and swaps and -- swap</p> <p>4 transactions in -- literally measured in cents</p> <p>5 per millions rather than dollars per million. So</p> <p>6 there's been a significant reduction in fees paid</p> <p>7 for order flow during that period.</p> <p>8 Q. And was that, you know, true -- was</p> <p>9 that your experience in the 2010 to 2014 time</p> <p>10 frame?</p> <p>11 MR. DAHAN: What? What "experience"?</p> <p>12 Q. These negotiations with liquidity</p> <p>13 providers about reducing the amount -- the rate</p> <p>14 of payment for order flow.</p> <p>15 A. Yeah, I mean, it was a common theme</p> <p>16 at every meeting held at banks is, you know, the</p> <p>17 banks would always want to reduce the fees paid</p> <p>18 and they would often cite the continuing</p> <p>19 reduction in spreads as the primary reason for</p> <p>20 that, because their income was not high enough to</p> <p>21 sustain the payments that had previously been</p> <p>22 agreed. And I would suggest that for most of the</p> <p>23 time period, it was pretty continuous process</p> <p>24 that that conversation was one that took place.</p> <p>25 And that would include 2010 to 2014, to be clear.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 87</p> <p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 happened. It may not have happened. I can't be</p> <p>3 certain.</p> <p>4 Q. So you're not, specifically, aware of</p> <p>5 any instances in your own personal experience?</p> <p>6 A. I'm not specifically aware of it, no.</p> <p>7 Would I have expected it to occur, yes.</p> <p>8 Q. Still in Paragraph 59, you talk about</p> <p>9 payments being individually negotiated with each</p> <p>10 liquidity provider.</p> <p>11 Did you negotiate with liquidity</p> <p>12 providers over payments for order flow?</p> <p>13 A. I did.</p> <p>14 Q. And was it your personal experience</p> <p>15 that liquidity providers in these discussions</p> <p>16 asked for price reductions at that time?</p> <p>17 A. Very much so, yes. You know, if I go</p> <p>18 over the chronology, we started in -- I mean,</p> <p>19 I've been negotiating agreements with banks from,</p> <p>20 you know, 1999 up until last year when I left the</p> <p>21 CME. And so, when we started in 1999, we were</p> <p>22 charging banks -- well, I probably shouldn't be</p> <p>23 entirely specific on a number, but a significant</p> <p>24 number somewhere north of \$20 in million.</p> <p>25 And by the time we got to last year,</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 89</p> <p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 Q. Thank you.</p> <p>3 And in these conversations that you</p> <p>4 had with liquidity providers about reducing the</p> <p>5 rates, how often did those conversations result</p> <p>6 in actual rate changes on average?</p> <p>7 A. I -- I couldn't -- I couldn't</p> <p>8 speculate. What I can tell you is that when I</p> <p>9 joined UBS, I immediately negotiated with all of</p> <p>10 our platform providers and this was in 2000 and</p> <p>11 -- between 2009 and 2011 and I obtained</p> <p>12 reductions on a hundred percent of the</p> <p>13 conversations I was having. But, you know, if</p> <p>14 we're looking at it from the other side of the</p> <p>15 desk, as the person who was being asked to</p> <p>16 receive less from my order flow, you know, banks</p> <p>17 can be demanding and you don't always want to</p> <p>18 give into those demands, because, obviously, you</p> <p>19 want to retain as much of a revenue as you can.</p> <p>20 So I couldn't speculate the percentage of times</p> <p>21 that that occurred, but it happened.</p> <p>22 Q. So say given for a given liquidity</p> <p>23 provider, approximately, how often would you</p> <p>24 actually change the rate of order flow payment,</p> <p>25 every few years, daily, monthly?</p>

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<p style="text-align: right;">Page 98</p> <p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 I will say that the climate that we were all</p> <p>3 operating under in the financial markets</p> <p>4 post-financial crisis was one of the demands for</p> <p>5 increasing transparency. So, as part of those</p> <p>6 demands for increasing transparency, I can</p> <p>7 suggest that the European regulators felt that</p> <p>8 fairness and, you know, same fee structures for</p> <p>9 everybody in making those transparent and public</p> <p>10 was important in the same way that their</p> <p>11 requirement for recording transactions in, you</p> <p>12 know, databases that the regulator could access</p> <p>13 is also considered important to create</p> <p>14 transparency. So it's part of a movement towards</p> <p>15 transparency.</p> <p>16 Q. And --</p> <p>17 A. Which is convenient for this</p> <p>18 document.</p> <p>19 Q. And other than the general interest</p> <p>20 in increasing transparency, were there any</p> <p>21 specific issues you're aware of that this</p> <p>22 regulation was implemented in order to address?</p> <p>23 A. No, I'm not aware of any specific</p> <p>24 issues other than the 2007 to 2009 financial</p> <p>25 crisis.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 100</p> <p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 the process, it's unlikely that there would be a</p> <p>3 retail element to that flow.</p> <p>4 Q. Okay. In Paragraph 61, you refer to</p> <p>5 liquidity providers who paid "a substantial share</p> <p>6 of trading profits to ECNs as opposed to a dollar</p> <p>7 per million fee."</p> <p>8 Do you see that?</p> <p>9 A. I am, yeah.</p> <p>10 Q. Okay. Were you aware of particular</p> <p>11 liquidity providers who made payments on a</p> <p>12 percentage basis?</p> <p>13 A. Yes.</p> <p>14 Q. Was that a certain type of liquidity</p> <p>15 provider say banks versus non-banks or a category</p> <p>16 of nonbank liquidity providers?</p> <p>17 A. My personal experience, which is</p> <p>18 negotiating those services was that while I did</p> <p>19 have banks that did pay my company based on</p> <p>20 profits that they made on the order flow they</p> <p>21 received, those negotiations were easier with</p> <p>22 non-banks than they were with banks. So both,</p> <p>23 both occurred but easier with nonbanks than</p> <p>24 banks.</p> <p>25 Q. And in any of the instances where a</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 99</p> <p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 Q. On the next page, Page 24, Figure 4,</p> <p>3 there's several platforms there.</p> <p>4 Are any of these platforms, as listed</p> <p>5 in this context, for retail FX trading?</p> <p>6 A. So, you know, retail flow is part of</p> <p>7 a continuum of flow that ends up being priced by</p> <p>8 an institution. And as we discussed with</p> <p>9 CurrentX, Current X was the leading kind of</p> <p>10 infrastructure technology play that was used in</p> <p>11 the retail markets. Although the transactions</p> <p>12 between, you know, CurrentX's prime broker and</p> <p>13 the prime broker for the retail broker were</p> <p>14 classified as institutional trades, the source of</p> <p>15 the original request for trade was a retail</p> <p>16 transaction.</p> <p>17 But we can see the same</p> <p>18 characteristics in any platform that handles flow</p> <p>19 is that there will be a mix of flow that</p> <p>20 originates with the retail customer and comes</p> <p>21 through. FX Connect is probably the exception,</p> <p>22 because almost all of flow is -- you know, the</p> <p>23 platform is more designed for asset managers and</p> <p>24 unless an asset manager is directly relating to,</p> <p>25 you know, retail flow originally at the front of</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 101</p> <p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 liquidity provider paid a percentage or</p> <p>3 substantial share of its trading profits to the</p> <p>4 ECNs, were any of those in the retail trading</p> <p>5 context?</p> <p>6 A. I can't be certain of the source of</p> <p>7 the flow necessarily. Again, you know, the</p> <p>8 actual flow by the time it came from my ECN --</p> <p>9 the relationship between my ECN and the liquidity</p> <p>10 provider was, you know, technically an</p> <p>11 institutional level relationship. The</p> <p>12 relationship between me and the market taker was</p> <p>13 also an institutional relationship. But many of</p> <p>14 those firms that were clients of my ECN were</p> <p>15 retail brokers. And so there's no question that</p> <p>16 the origin of the flow for many of those clients</p> <p>17 was retail flow, was going through system.</p> <p>18 Q. Did any of those ECNs operate or</p> <p>19 claim to operate a no dealing desk or similar</p> <p>20 model?</p> <p>21 A. I -- I have no real knowledge of</p> <p>22 that. I am not focused on the business model of</p> <p>23 my clients to that degree.</p> <p>24 Q. You say, "a substantial share of any</p> <p>25 trading profits."</p>



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<p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 What do you mean by "substantial</p> <p>3 share," is that more than half, something else?</p> <p>4 A. So, you know, my personal knowledge</p> <p>5 relates to the negotiations that I and my sales</p> <p>6 team conducted with liquidity providers. We were</p> <p>7 making a very specific offer to those liquidity</p> <p>8 providers that they either paid us a fee for the</p> <p>9 order flow on a dollars per million basis or they</p> <p>10 could choose to pay us 50 percent of their</p> <p>11 profits. We didn't try to negotiate above</p> <p>12 50 percent, but that was the offer that we made.</p> <p>13 Q. And not just in the offer that was</p> <p>14 made but in the instances where a liquidity</p> <p>15 provider paid for order flow on a percentage</p> <p>16 basis, approximately, you know, what range of the</p> <p>17 percentage are we talking?</p> <p>18 A. It was only ever 50 percent. It was</p> <p>19 either one or the other. We gave them that</p> <p>20 choice. We didn't give them the choice to</p> <p>21 negotiate a different number.</p> <p>22 Q. Okay. So you're saying it was</p> <p>23 50 percent or a flat fee --</p> <p>24 A. A flat fee dollars per million, yes.</p> <p>25 We did actually did allow them to negotiate the</p>	<p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 Q. Are you aware of any instances where</p> <p>3 a liquidity provider was paying more than</p> <p>4 50 percent of its profits in order flow payments</p> <p>5 on retail flow?</p> <p>6 A. I have no specific knowledge of that,</p> <p>7 no.</p> <p>8 Q. Move to Paragraph 62. You're</p> <p>9 discussing your time at Molten Markets.</p> <p>10 What proportion of Molten Markets'</p> <p>11 liquidity providers paid for order flow, roughly?</p> <p>12 A. 100 percent.</p> <p>13 Q. And we may have covered this earlier.</p> <p>14 But Molten Markets' liquidity</p> <p>15 providers, was that all in the institutional</p> <p>16 context?</p> <p>17 MR. DAHAN: Objection.</p> <p>18 A. So our legal structure was that we</p> <p>19 had only institutional relationships, but many of</p> <p>20 our market takers were retail brokers.</p> <p>21 Q. Understood.</p> <p>22 Were order flow payment agreements --</p> <p>23 focusing on the agreements, I know we talked</p> <p>24 about payments before -- but were these</p> <p>25 agreements common throughout the industry in the</p>
Page 103	Page 105
<p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 dolls per million number but -- and that did</p> <p>3 change over time with many of our clients. But</p> <p>4 the 50 percent was either, you know, take or</p> <p>5 leave it, 50 percent of dollars per million.</p> <p>6 Q. Were you aware of any liquidity</p> <p>7 providers who paid more than 50 percent of their</p> <p>8 trading profits in order flow payments at</p> <p>9 anytime?</p> <p>10 A. Again, I'm not aware of the</p> <p>11 profitability. But if I believe the</p> <p>12 conversations I had with liquidity providers, who</p> <p>13 were paying on a dollars per million basis, then</p> <p>14 it's quite likely that they were paying more than</p> <p>15 50 percent at times because they were asking for</p> <p>16 fee reductions.</p> <p>17 Q. Does them asking for fee reductions</p> <p>18 mean that they are paying more than 50 percent?</p> <p>19 How did you come to the conclusion</p> <p>20 that they were paying more than 50 percent?</p> <p>21 A. Some of them -- some of them would</p> <p>22 show me statements of their profitability and</p> <p>23 show me that they were, you know, making a, you</p> <p>24 know, number which meant that my fee was more</p> <p>25 than 50 percent of their income from flow.</p>	<p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 2010 to 2014 period?</p> <p>3 A. Yes.</p> <p>4 Q. And were they the agreements also</p> <p>5 common for liquidity providers for retail FX</p> <p>6 platforms?</p> <p>7 A. Sorry. Can you say that again, so I</p> <p>8 hear it clearly?</p> <p>9 Q. Were the order flow payment</p> <p>10 agreements common for liquidity providers for</p> <p>11 retail FX platforms?</p> <p>12 MR. DAHAN: Objection to form.</p> <p>13 A. I don't...</p> <p>14 So I need to understand what you mean</p> <p>15 by "platform," because it's a question of whether</p> <p>16 the retail -- I -- I don't understand the</p> <p>17 structure of the question, I'm afraid. You know,</p> <p>18 I've already answered the fact that retail flow</p> <p>19 coming through a platform would -- the platform</p> <p>20 would receive payment for order flow from the</p> <p>21 liquidity provider. And that's really as far as</p> <p>22 I can answer that question, I think.</p> <p>23 Q. Did any of Molten Markets' liquidity</p> <p>24 providers pay a percentage of their trading</p> <p>25 profits as order flow payments?</p>



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<p style="text-align: right;">Page 118</p> <p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 as valid. That that's my recollection.</p> <p>3 Q. And do you remember the dates either</p> <p>4 of the option agreement or the document that you</p> <p>5 say confirmed that neither side regarded the</p> <p>6 option agreement as valid?</p> <p>7 A. I don't remember the dates or the</p> <p>8 chronology, no.</p> <p>9 Q. Were you aware of the general terms</p> <p>10 of the option agreement?</p> <p>11 A. Not in -- I mean, I would have read</p> <p>12 it. I would have considered it. I would have</p> <p>13 discounted it because it no longer existed. So I</p> <p>14 don't remember the precise terms of the option</p> <p>15 agreement but a vague recollection.</p> <p>16 Q. So is it fair to say you did not</p> <p>17 incorporate the terms of the option agreement</p> <p>18 into your analysis of FXCM's business</p> <p>19 relationship with Effex?</p> <p>20 MR. DAHAN: Objection to form. I</p> <p>21 think you just said he discounted -- he discarded</p> <p>22 it, but that's a consideration.</p> <p>23 A. I, certainly, looked at it. I</p> <p>24 considered it. I felt that it was clear that the</p> <p>25 option agreement didn't exist and therefore it</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 120</p> <p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 A. You know, logically, if you're</p> <p>3 running a business and you're paying somebody for</p> <p>4 flow, you can't pay them more than you're making.</p> <p>5 So, to that extent, I'm sure it was a factor.</p> <p>6 But, you know, beyond that I'd be speculating.</p> <p>7 Q. You mentioned that in the same</p> <p>8 paragraph of the last sentence that starting in</p> <p>9 2013, Effex paid lower rates for certain currency</p> <p>10 payors for order flow.</p> <p>11 Do you see that?</p> <p>12 A. Uh-huh, I do.</p> <p>13 Q. Do you know what was the basis for</p> <p>14 Effex paying less for these currency payors?</p> <p>15 A. I have no specific knowledge of that</p> <p>16 negotiation and the factors in it, no.</p> <p>17 Q. Do you know if the services agreement</p> <p>18 was amended to reflect these new rates?</p> <p>19 A. I -- I don't recall. I don't recall.</p> <p>20 Q. In your experience, would you expect</p> <p>21 the parties to memorialize a change in order flow</p> <p>22 fee rates by amending a services agreement?</p> <p>23 MR. DAHAN: Objection to form.</p> <p>24 A. You know, I -- I -- if you're being,</p> <p>25 you know, pedantic about how agreements are kept</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 119</p> <p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 was no longer a factor in my consideration.</p> <p>3 Q. Okay. Were you aware of any order</p> <p>4 flow payments made by Effex to FXCM or billed by</p> <p>5 FXCM before the May 2010 services agreement?</p> <p>6 A. I'm not aware of anything.</p> <p>7 Q. On the top of the next page, Page 26,</p> <p>8 you say that, "FXCM and Effex renegotiated the</p> <p>9 per million fee on multiple occasions based on</p> <p>10 changing market conditions and irrelative</p> <p>11 bargaining power of each party."</p> <p>12 Do you see that?</p> <p>13 A. I do.</p> <p>14 Q. What changes in market conditions did</p> <p>15 you understand served as the basis for these rate</p> <p>16 changes?</p> <p>17 A. I mean, there are probably many</p> <p>18 factors. I think the biggest driver of it would</p> <p>19 probably be this spread reduction that they</p> <p>20 experienced during the period because spread is</p> <p>21 an important factor for a market maker in making</p> <p>22 money.</p> <p>23 Q. Was it your understanding that</p> <p>24 Effex's profitability on FXCM trading volume was</p> <p>25 a factor in these rate negotiations?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 121</p> <p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 in step completely all the time, then, yes, of</p> <p>3 course, you would expect people to record</p> <p>4 changes. That would be a natural expectation. I</p> <p>5 know from my own experience that that doesn't</p> <p>6 always happen because people make mistakes.</p> <p>7 Q. So, to hone in a little bit on your</p> <p>8 experience in particular, when your company</p> <p>9 received order flow from liquidity providers, did</p> <p>10 you typically have formal written agreements</p> <p>11 similar to the services agreement here that set</p> <p>12 out the payment rates for order flow?</p> <p>13 A. Yeah, as a matter of policy, we would</p> <p>14 make sure we had formal written agreements, yes.</p> <p>15 Q. And did you ever change the rate of</p> <p>16 the order flow payments that you received from</p> <p>17 liquidity providers without amending the written</p> <p>18 agreement that set out the rates?</p> <p>19 A. So our policy was that we would do</p> <p>20 that. I can't be certain that we always did</p> <p>21 record that. You know, my liquidity manager was</p> <p>22 responsible for those relationships and, you</p> <p>23 know, he was not always as particular about</p> <p>24 documentation as I would have been. But I -- he</p> <p>25 probably got it signed. Did he get it signed</p>

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<p style="text-align: right;">Page 122</p> <p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 immediately, I don't know.</p> <p>3 Q. Okay. And, just to clarify record,</p> <p>4 when you say, "our policy was that we would do</p> <p>5 that," you mean we would amend the agreement --</p> <p>6 A. Yes of course, yes.</p> <p>7 Q. -- is that right?</p> <p>8 A. I mean, your policy should always be</p> <p>9 to make sure that the agreements reflect the</p> <p>10 nature of the relationship.</p> <p>11 Q. Were there ever instances in which</p> <p>12 you would not want to amend the agreement to</p> <p>13 reflect a change in the rate or order flow</p> <p>14 payments?</p> <p>15 A. I can't think of one.</p> <p>16 Q. Going to Paragraph 67 -- and feel</p> <p>17 free to review that paragraph as needed.</p> <p>18 Do you know whether FXCM was under</p> <p>19 investigation by the NFA and/or CFTC in</p> <p>20 August 2014?</p> <p>21 A. I don't recall the dates I'm afraid.</p> <p>22 Q. Do you know if FXCM was under</p> <p>23 investigation by the NFA and/or CFTC around that</p> <p>24 time frame in 2014 in general?</p> <p>25 A. Again, I'm afraid I don't recall the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 124</p> <p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 investigations, certainly, from the material.</p> <p>3 Q. Do you know whether these</p> <p>4 investigations played a role in FXCM deciding to</p> <p>5 terminate the services agreement with Effex in</p> <p>6 2014?</p> <p>7 A. I do not know I'm afraid.</p> <p>8 Q. Do you know of any other FX brokers</p> <p>9 other than FXCM who were receiving order flow</p> <p>10 payments from liquidity providers outside the UK</p> <p>11 but stopped after the FCA's 2014 thematic review?</p> <p>12 A. I'm not aware of the internal</p> <p>13 operations of those firms, so I have no personal</p> <p>14 knowledge, no.</p> <p>15 Q. At the end of Paragraph 67, which is</p> <p>16 on the top of the next page, Page 27, you say,</p> <p>17 "Payments for order flow remain committed in most</p> <p>18 other major global markets including the US."</p> <p>19 Do you mean that they are expressly</p> <p>20 permitted or that they are not expressly</p> <p>21 prohibited?</p> <p>22 A. Yeah, that -- I actually don't have a</p> <p>23 list of markets in which -- you know, the rules</p> <p>24 relating to each. My understanding is that</p> <p>25 payment for order flow is an accepted practice in</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 123</p> <p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 precise timeline. You would have to remind me</p> <p>3 with some documentation on that. I'm sorry.</p> <p>4 Q. Were you aware of FXCM being under</p> <p>5 investigation under the NFA and/or CFTC at some</p> <p>6 point in?</p> <p>7 A. I think like everybody else, I was</p> <p>8 aware after the CFTC issued a press release on</p> <p>9 the subject but --</p> <p>10 MR. DAHAN: Josh, so we're clear, are</p> <p>11 you talking about his general awareness or you're</p> <p>12 talking as part of doing his report or, like,</p> <p>13 back in 2014, did he know FXCM was being</p> <p>14 investigated? I mean, I think, the witness is</p> <p>15 not understanding your question.</p> <p>16 Q. In preparing this report, were you</p> <p>17 aware that at some point the NFA and/or CFTC were</p> <p>18 investigating FXCM?</p> <p>19 A. Yes, in terms of reviewing the</p> <p>20 materials that relate to the case, yes, of</p> <p>21 course.</p> <p>22 Q. Okay. And do you know whether those</p> <p>23 investigations concerned FXCM's relationship with</p> <p>24 Effex?</p> <p>25 A. Yeah, that was a factor in their</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 125</p> <p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 all markets. In fact, including in Europe today,</p> <p>3 it's still an accepted practice. It's simply a</p> <p>4 thematic review and some guidelines that were</p> <p>5 issued by the FCA, but it's still permitted.</p> <p>6 Q. Are you aware of any jurisdictions</p> <p>7 where payment for order flow are expressly</p> <p>8 permitted or sanctioned by a regulatory</p> <p>9 authority?</p> <p>10 A. I am not aware of the legal nuances,</p> <p>11 no.</p> <p>12 Q. Are you aware of any jurisdictions in</p> <p>13 which payments for order flow are expressly</p> <p>14 prohibited?</p> <p>15 A. No, I'm not.</p> <p>16 Q. Okay. Are you aware of any</p> <p>17 regulators outside the UK, like, either</p> <p>18 restricted or regulated payments for order flows</p> <p>19 in FX markets?</p> <p>20 MR. DAHAN: Objection to form.</p> <p>21 A. I am not aware of any, no, I have no</p> <p>22 knowledge of any.</p> <p>23 Q. Moving onto the next paragraph,</p> <p>24 Paragraph 68, you are talking about "realtime</p> <p>25 read a book."</p>

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<p style="text-align: right;">Page 154</p> <p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 you know of that occur?</p> <p>3 A. No. But, as I referred to earlier,</p> <p>4 you know, I've been part of negotiations with</p> <p>5 liquidity providers where they've shown me their</p> <p>6 profitability and used it to squeeze me on -- and</p> <p>7 asked me to reduce my fees. And, you know, for a</p> <p>8 period of time, it would have been a substantial</p> <p>9 number. And in some cases, my fee exceeded what</p> <p>10 they earned, more than a hundred percent.</p> <p>11 So, yes, the simple answer to your</p> <p>12 question is, yes, I'm aware it was not</p> <p>13 sustainable.</p> <p>14 Q. Okay. If we jump down to Page 36 and</p> <p>15 Paragraph 96. Let me know when you're there.</p> <p>16 A. Yes, I'm there.</p> <p>17 Q. And in Paragraph 96 you opine that</p> <p>18 FXCM's business relationship with Effex, as you</p> <p>19 defined it earlier in your report, did not create</p> <p>20 a conflict of interest between FXCM and its no</p> <p>21 dealing desk customers.</p> <p>22 Do you see that?</p> <p>23 A. It did not create a conflict of</p> <p>24 interest. Yes, I see that.</p> <p>25 Q. And you had some examples in the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 156</p> <p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 aware of the hypothetical scenarios than their</p> <p>3 specifics.</p> <p>4 Q. What are those scenarios that you're</p> <p>5 aware of?</p> <p>6 A. Well, you know, let me give you a</p> <p>7 simple hypothetical scenario.</p> <p>8 If a broker -- well, let's just be</p> <p>9 specific. Let's say if FXCM had eliminated all</p> <p>10 of their other liquidity providers and directed</p> <p>11 all of their flow to one, there was no</p> <p>12 competitive pricing involved at all, then that</p> <p>13 would generate a conflict of interest because</p> <p>14 there what was no external reference as to where</p> <p>15 the market was, but that wasn't the case. So we</p> <p>16 don't have a conflict. There was a clear</p> <p>17 reference as to where the market price was in the</p> <p>18 market and the customer was getting that best</p> <p>19 price at all times.</p> <p>20 Q. If Effex was making order flow</p> <p>21 payments to FXCM based on a percentage of its</p> <p>22 profits on trading volume from FXCM, would that</p> <p>23 create a conflict of interest between FXCM and</p> <p>24 its no dealing desk retail clients?</p> <p>25 MR. DAHAN: Objection to form.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 155</p> <p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 paragraph of potential conflicts of interest.</p> <p>3 Other than assuming market risk or</p> <p>4 directly taking the opposite side of client</p> <p>5 trades, are there any other ways that you can</p> <p>6 think of in which a broker operating a no dealing</p> <p>7 desk model might have a conflict of interest with</p> <p>8 its customers?</p> <p>9 MR. DAHAN: Objection to form.</p> <p>10 A. A no dealing desk model? So, if</p> <p>11 you're asking me to construct, you know, a</p> <p>12 hypothetical scenario where there could be a</p> <p>13 constructed conflict of interest, I guess, I</p> <p>14 could do that.</p> <p>15 Am I supposed to construct a</p> <p>16 hypothetical scenario?</p> <p>17 MR. DAHAN: No.</p> <p>18 Q. No, I'm not asking for a hypothetical</p> <p>19 scenario.</p> <p>20 I'm asking if you're aware of, let's</p> <p>21 say, real world instances or risks that would</p> <p>22 create a conflict of interest between a no</p> <p>23 dealing desk broker and its customers.</p> <p>24 A. No, I don't think I'm aware of a</p> <p>25 specific one that I can cite and quote. I'm more</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 157</p> <p>1 CONFIDENTIAL - SIMON WILSON-TAYLOR</p> <p>2 A. You're asking me to consider a</p> <p>3 hypothetical situation here which didn't exist,</p> <p>4 so I can't.</p> <p>5 Q. In Paragraph 98 on Page 37 and you</p> <p>6 say that, FXCM's matching engine applied the same</p> <p>7 execution rules to Effex as to any other</p> <p>8 liquidity provider.</p> <p>9 Do you see that?</p> <p>10 A. Exchange matching engine routed</p> <p>11 orders to Effex using the same execution rules</p> <p>12 applied to any other liquidity provider; yes.</p> <p>13 Q. When you say that they applied "the</p> <p>14 same execution rules," does that include winning</p> <p>15 ties or applying different markups? Are those</p> <p>16 part of the set of "execution rules" that you're</p> <p>17 referring to?</p> <p>18 A. Yes, they had a set of procedures and</p> <p>19 rules that they applied and they equally could</p> <p>20 have applied to other market makers and, indeed,</p> <p>21 did from time to time apply to other market</p> <p>22 makers as well as Effex.</p> <p>23 Q. In Paragraph 99 you say that the</p> <p>24 payment for order flow agreement with Effex did</p> <p>25 not change FXCM's incentives.</p>

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